



**September 2023**

**TRUGREEN FALL APPLICATION**

*REAR LAWNS ONLY*

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

rain date 9-25-23

**ANNUAL POOCH PLUNGE**

**Saturday, September 16**

**3:00pm—5:00pm**

**WELCOME EVERYONE!**

It's time for another favorite event in the Village, our 7th Annual POOCH PLUNGE!

Please feel free to bring your dogs, kids, parents, but no cats please! Swim suits are not required for dogs unless they insist. You don't even need a dog to participate. It's a great time for dog swimming and just running around making friends. Dog treats are provided. See you there for more dog-gone fun! Watch for the sign at the roundabout. *Please note: if your dog has ever exhibited aggressive behavior or does not do well around other dogs, please do not bring them to this event. If your dog shows aggressive behavior while at the event, you will be asked to leave.*

**PV - PSA: Crews at work in the Village**

We're into September, school has started, and so have projects in the Village!

**Mastercraft** will be on site starting the week of September 11 (weather permitting) to begin prep work on buildings to be painted this year. Notices have been sent to all affected co-owners and residents, and you'll get a final heads-up just before they get started on your building.

Do them—and us—a favor and get things ready ahead of time to give the crews easy access:

- remove attached items, like decorations, mailboxes, thermometers, hooks
- move items close to buildings a safe distance away, on the grass or the far side of your deck: deck furniture, potted plants, garden tools, storage bins/sheds, hose holders
- cover items or plantings you're concerned about with a tarp or old sheet for protection
- if you can, please clear out flower boxes too; using plastic boxes that sit inside the wood boxes makes it a simple task. If you don't have any, consider getting them for next year.

While you're at it, how about a little purging? Get rid of stuff you don't need or use anymore! And when the painting is done, please refrain from re-affixing decorative items on the buildings through the cedar shakes. At their age, they can split; we want to have them doing their job as long as possible!

Also starting is **chimney repair**. Scaffolding will go up next to buildings whose chimneys are targeted for this year. Our chimneys—like our buildings—are old and mortar cracks or other signs of stress can signal openings for water to enter. Repair work on our chimneys will be ongoing for a good number of years, as our budget allows.

One other crew needs to be noted: the **GoDoc Crew**! Eight co-owners responded to a call many moons ago to be part of a group to review and help update our governing documents, the Master Deed and Bylaws being the two major ones. With guidance from Mr. Ed Zelmanski, from our legal team, we've held two meetings to date to take stock of what needs attention and how we're going to get the work done. There will be ample opportunity for input from and feedback to the community to arrive at a final set of documents that will be put to a community-wide vote. We expect the process to take months, likely up to a year. More info and details to come!

# My thoughts on Sustainability

I am Su Hansen, 3465 Richard. I want to make clear I am speaking as an individual resident not as a representative of a group, although there may be members of the Sustainability Group who agree with these ideas and have stated so, we haven't discussed it fully as a group. There are two things I wish the Board to consider. First, I would like the Board to agree to a written statement to the effect that environmental sustainability will be strongly considered when making any decision. This is a practical matter. You are charged with making financially responsible decisions. Given the drastic weather changes we have seen throughout the country, such as flooding, wildfires, dangerous air quality, high winds, extreme heat, and massive failure of utilities, we would be naïve to think that this won't be an increasing problem here. The integrity of our condos, the land we share and the health and welfare of all who live here will be impacted. As I look at the agenda, I know that these are also the concerns of the current Board and that you are not naïve. And I know how easy it can be to forget about these threats and the need to take measures to mitigate them, when we are challenged financially and when we would like to keep our lovely community the way it's always been. So, this statement would be a reminder to this and future boards that environmental sustainability is the only way to have financial sustainability.

Another reason to have this written statement is that possible funding partners, such as the City of Ann Arbor and various agencies both public and private in Washtenaw County want to be sure that grantees are going to enter fully into the sustainability projects that they fund. Universities, including U of M, are seeing the value of town and gown projects where they provide expertise and labor to projects in the community which they would help to design. We could use the statement to show that we would welcome and be fully supportive of their goal. The money and the expertise are both sorely needed, and a written statement would go a long way toward getting them.

The second thing I would like the Board to consider is the creation of a Sustainability Advisory Committee. The Board could call on this committee to help find people and resources to help them put together a plan to meet specific sustainability goals that the Board has agreed upon. Residents could also use the committee when they have an idea for addressing a concern of their own. The committee could help them to find others in the Village who would want to work on it or add expertise to develop a plan and ultimately a proposal. The committee could help them to understand how to move through the process of taking their idea to the landscape or modifications committee, getting feedback, answering concerns, and eventually taking the proposal to the Board for approval. The Board retains agency to deal with whole proposal on their own and residents could still bring things directly to the Board. The reason I am suggesting this is that the Board and the committees have an overwhelming number of things to decide and approve. There will also increasingly be more need for sustainability problems to be addressed. It seems it would be useful for the Board to have a committee they could turn to to gather people and resources to help them in their decision making. It would also help to make residents proposals, ones that could be addressed by the Board with more ease. It's merely a way to make the work more efficient and more effective.

I don't expect you to address these ideas today. You already have a full agenda. I ask that you think about their value, tweak them to make them more workable and I sincerely hope you will give them consideration. I will be posting what I have just said on the Pittsfield Village Sustainability Facebook page with a request for comments. If you are not a member of that Facebook page, it might be good for you to join so that you can see comments from the community and join in the conversation. Thank you for your time.

## In the Garden

September 2023

By: Kristan LaFleur

The end of summer is upon us, and fall is quickly moving in. Constant fluctuations in temperatures and moisture also bring mold, fungi, disease, and viruses. To all our gardeners out there, make sure to keep your gardens clean from debris and suspicious growths. As a reminder, even though we have had a lot of rain, we need to continue watering new plants as needed. Even though our days are getting shorter, and the flowers are slowly going away, you can still add color to your garden through Artemisia, Beardtongue, Gaillardia, Gaura, Heather, Mums, Asters, Sedum and Helianthus.



### Things to do in Early September

- Divide and transplant overcrowded or overgrown plants.
- Clean out any diseased plants or foliage.
- Fertilize plants as needed.
- Deadhead blossoms.
- Weed.

### Things to do Mid-September

- Continue to water as needed.
- Dig out perennials you do not want to have next year.

### Things to do in Late September

- Have leaves? Start cleaning them out of your beds.
- If you have tender perennials or bulbs, dig them up and bring them in for storage until warmer weather arrives again.
- Plant your bulbs for Spring color.

# Getting to Know You!

This month let us meet IAN DEMSKY and KELLY DAVENPORT on Jeanne Street. A truly devoted couple. Perhaps you have seen them on their daily walks throughout The Village.

They have been married since 2010 and their life together began with illuminating experiences. Kelly is a do-it-yourselfer, sewing her own clothes and even making her own wedding cake. Getting married on New Year's Eve seemed like a great way to start life in the new year. That is until Kelly's mom's hair caught on fire at the altar. Making this a sizzling affair! Still, they never have trouble remembering their anniversary date.

Both Ian and Kelly are former journalists, and met at The News Tribune in Tacoma, Washington. They both also later taught English composition in Moscow, Idaho. Presently, Ian writes articles explaining cancer research for Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. And Kelly is a technical writer for a cybersecurity startup called Push — this involves being a sort of technological therapist, translating from engineer-speak into human. Yes, you've got it, they are both brainiacs!

They are a busy couple outside of work, too. Presently they are into weightlifting at the Rusty Barbell in Ypsilanti, building up their muscles as well as their brains. Try as they might, even though they are overzealous with this physical activity, they will not be ready for the Summer Olympics in Paris. Oh darn! Along with weightlifting, they also enjoy taking pottery classes, giving me a stunning birdhouse for my tree. Ian is also a wanna-be card magician and comedian. We try to humor him at best. A few years ago, Ian also started a Facebook entitled [Reliable Sources](#), where he posts well-sourced news and commentary (mostly about politics and the environment). The group has grown to more than 600 followers and anyone is welcome to join.

Peaceful and caring they are, it makes sense for them to be Buddhists at the Zen Temple on Packard. They feel paying better attention to the present helps you recognize your own patterns and live a happier life. Kelly is an ordained Dharma Teacher at the temple, where she leads Sunday services once a month.

Travel is fun for these two. Thrice visiting Paris and loving the excellent food, beautiful architecture and many museums. They even got deck furniture to match the kind found in Paris parks. Visiting Paris inspired wonderful baked goods such as bread and madeleines (which they often share with neighbors). Next year, they have their eyes set for Japan. What shall we expect!

Living in The Village on Jeanne Street for 12 years has been enjoyable and constructive. They have made major improvements to their condo including a built-in bookcase, a new kitchen and bath, new windows and doors, blown-in insulation, recessed lighting, and a radon mitigation system. And perhaps you have seen their magnificent Russian sage in the front garden. Wow! Are you reading this, Amy?

Their love for The Village stems from the feeling of equality — with all of us living in the almost exact same home, it puts everyone on the same level and creates a sense of unity. This unity radiates in everyone looking out for one another. That's The Village way!

We thank you for sharing a bit of your time and life with "The Village People." Thanks for choosing to be one of us. It's been fun getting to Know You!







### Annual Community-Driven Potluck

Finally! After a couple of rain postponements, the potluck was held near the pool and was a success! Several PV residents attended and enjoyed good food and good company.

Thank you to all participants!

<https://annarborwithkids.com/articles/ann-arbor-fall-guide/>



Copy and paste the link above to find "Your go-to Source for Ann Arbor Family Fun"

Or, so I hear...



**The last day of the pool season is this weekend!**

**Sunday, September 10**

## PEST CONTROL

JC Ehrlich services the community every Thursday. If you have pest control needs & would like to place a work order, contact the Village office **734-971-0223** or email **office@pittsfieldvillage.com**.



Please call by Wednesday to be on the schedule for that week.

## Pittsfield Village Office

Monday— Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Office: 734-971-0233 Fax: 734-971-3421

Email: [office@pittsfieldvillage.com](mailto:office@pittsfieldvillage.com) / [www.pittsfieldvillage.com](http://www.pittsfieldvillage.com)

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September



## MEETING LINKS FOR SEPTEMBER

Landscape <https://meet.goto.com/404075445>

BOD <https://meet.goto.com/959437797>

## Paws & Tails Pet Care

Right here in Pittsfield Village! Have peace of mind while you're away with quality care and affordable rates for your furry family member! I provide daily dog walking for people who have long, busy, work hours, new puppies who need potty breaks and socialization, or for those that want their dog to have a fun break in their day!

I also provide house visits for dogs, cats, and small animals for those gone on vacations and business trips. Email to book your free meet and greet with me and to receive more information.

Contact information: [irenehayes03@yahoo.com](mailto:irenehayes03@yahoo.com)

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	5 M&M Committee Meeting 6:00pm	6	7	8	9
10 Last Day Pool is Open	11	12 Landscape Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	13	14	15	16 POOCH PLUNGE 3pm to 5pm
17	18 Trugreen REAR lawn Application	19	20 Board Meeting 6:00 Open forum	21	22	23
24	25 Trugreen Rain Date	26	27	28	29	30